# UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA TAMPA DIVISION www.flmb.uscourts.gov

In re:	Case No. 8:15-bk-03714-MGW
	Chapter 7
John J. Futchko, Jr.	<u>-</u>
Debtor	

# TRUSTEE'S MOTION TO SELL REAL PROPERTY FREE AND CLEAR OF LIENS WITH CONSENT OF SECURED LENDER AND APPROVE SURCHARGE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SECURED LENDER AND THE ESTATE

(Property: 8686 Westfield Park Drive, Olmsted Township, OH 44138)

#### **NOTICE OF HEARING**

A PRELIMINARY HEARING in this case will be held on **JUNE 29, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. in Courtroom 8A,** Sam M. Gibbons United States Courthouse, 801 N. Florida Ave., Tampa, FL, 33602, before the Honorable K. Rodney May, United States Bankruptcy Judge, to consider this matter and transact such other business that may come before the Court.

- 1. The hearing may be continued upon announcement made in open Court without further notice.
- 2. <u>Appropriate Attire.</u> You are reminded that Local Rule 5072–1(b)(16) requires that all persons appearing in Court should dress in business attire consistent with their financial abilities. Shorts, sandals, shirts without collars, including tee shirts and tank tops, are not acceptable.
- 3. Avoid delays at Courthouse security checkpoints. You are reminded that Local Rule 5073-1 restricts the entry of cellular telephones and, except in Orlando, computers into the Courthouse absent a specific order of authorization issued beforehand by the presiding judge. Due to heightened security procedures, persons must present photo identification to enter the Courthouse.

COMES NOW, Carolyn R. Chaney, Chapter 7 Trustee (the "<u>Trustee</u>") duly appointed Chapter 7 Trustee for the above-referenced debtor (the "<u>Debtor</u>") pursuant to Sections 105 and 363 of the Bankruptcy Code hereby files this motion ("<u>Motion</u>") for entry of an order for authority

to sell certain real property of the estate free and clear of liens and encumbrances. In support thereof, the Trustee respectfully states as follows:

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 1. This Court has jurisdiction to consider this Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334. This matter is a core proceeding within the meaning of 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(A), (M), (N), and (O).
  - 2. Venue is proper before this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1408 and 1409.
- 3. The basis for the relief requested are 11 U.S.C. §§ 363(b), (f), and (m), Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure 2002 and 6004.

## **BACKGROUND**

- 4. On April 10, 2015, the Debtor commenced this case by filing a voluntary petition for relief under Chapter 7 of the United States Bankruptcy Code (the "Petition Date").
- 5. Carolyn R. Chaney is the duly appointed and qualified Chapter 7 Trustee. The Trustee held and concluded the 341 meeting of creditors on May 14, 2015.
- 6. The Debtor scheduled a 100% ownership interest in the real property located at 8686 Westfield Park Drive, Olmsted Township, OH 44138 (the "Property") and legally described as follows: Situated in the Township of Olmsted County of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio: And known as being Sublot No. 42 in the Westfield Park, Section One, of Part of Original Olmsted Township Tract No. 3, as shown by the recorded plat in Volume 320 of Maps, Pages 25-27 of Cuyahoga County Records, as appears by said plat, be the same more or less, but subject to all legal highways.

- 7. The Debtor scheduled the Property as having a value of \$171,300.00 subject to a mortgage in favor of Wells Fargo Bank (the "Secured Creditors") in the amount owed on the Petition Date of approximately \$161,012.00.
- 8. The Trustee, after reviewing certain materials, including (without limitation) the BK Score<sup>TM1</sup>, sales analysis report and opinion of value for the Property provided by BK Global ("BKRES") and Listing Agent, has determined it to be in the best interest of the Debtor's estate and all creditors to negotiate to obtain Secured Creditor's agreement and consent ("Consent") to:
  - a. sell the Property to whichever third party Trustee determines to have made the best qualified offer during a public sale approved by the Court;
  - b. buy the Property from the Debtor's estate if (and only if) no such offer is made;
  - c. release the Senior Mortgage and otherwise waive all of its claims against the
    estate with respect to the Property (including any deficiency claims resulting
    from the proposed sale); and
  - d. agree to a 11 U.S.C. §506 surcharge to pay all of the expenses associated with the proposed sale, including the payment of a 6% real estate brokerage commission to BKRES and Listing Agent and reimbursement of their out-ofpocket expenses, and provide a carve out for the benefit of allowed unsecured creditors of the Debtor's estate.
- 9. The Secured Creditor has represented and warranted that it possesses a valid, perfected, enforceable and unavoidable first mortgage lien on the Property by virtue of a promissory note and mortgage recorded in the Official Records, consisting of principal and interest (the "Secured Creditor Indebtedness").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The BK Score<sup>™</sup> is a 100-point rating that is generated by a proprietary algorithm from 10 unique property attributes in order to consistently measure sales confidence and predict market value.

10. The Trustee has accepted an offer from Yong Yang and Xiu Na Lin to purchase the property in the amount of \$170,000.00, as payment in full (subject to Court and lienholder approval).

#### RELIEF REQUESTED

- 11. The Trustee requests the entry of an order pursuant to Section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code approving the sale of the Property, using the services of BKRES and Listing Agent, and authorizing the payment of liens and encumbrances of record from the sales proceeds. As a material inducement to the Trustee's decision to pursue the proposed sale, the Secured Creditor consents to the Property's sale for the amount of \$170,000.00 and the creation of a carve-out fund (the "Carve-Out Fund") in the amount of \$8,030.31 for the bankruptcy estate that will provide a recovery for the creditors in this bankruptcy estate.
- 12. Any creditor, other than the Secured Creditor, asserting an interest or secured claim against the Property must file an objection to the sale prior to hearing on this matter.

#### **BASIS FOR RELIEF**

- A. The Sale of the Property Should Be Approved
- 13. The Trustee seeks the Court's authority to sell the Property and pay all liens, claims, encumbrances of record, but otherwise "As-Is, Where-Is" and without representations or warranties of any type, express or implied, being given by the Trustee and her professionals, pursuant to the Sale procedures described below.
- 14. Pursuant to Section 363(b) of the Bankruptcy Code, a Trustee, after notice and hearing, may use, sell, or lease property of the Debtor's estate other than in the ordinary course of business. The Court should approve the sale if the Trustee can demonstrate a sound business

justification for the sale and if the sale process is fair, open, and reasonable. See Official Comm. Of Unsecured Creditors of LTV Aerospace & Defense Co. v. LTV Corp. (In re Chateaugay Corp.), 973 F.2d 141, 143 (2d Cir. 1992); see also In re Sarah's Tent, LLC, 396 B.R. 571, 573 (Bankr. S.D. Fla. 2008). Further, Bankruptcy Rule 6004(f) contemplates sales outside of the ordinary course of business.

- 15. The Trustee, through the services of BKRES and Listing Agent, have listed the property and accepted an offer from a disinterested party that has been approved by the Secured Creditor and will result in a carve-out for the Bankruptcy Estate of \$8,030.31. Attached as Exhibit "A" is the Settlement Statement.
- 16. Accordingly, the Trustee submits that the sale of the Property pursuant to the above process is reasonable under Section 363(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 17. Pursuant to Section 363(f) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Trustee may sell property free and clear of any interest in such property in an entity other than the estate if (1) permitted under applicable non-bankruptcy law; (2) the party asserting such interest consents; (3) the interest is a lien and the purchase price at which the property is to be sold is greater than the aggregate value of all liens on the property; (4) the interest is the subject of a bona fide dispute; or (5) the party asserting the interest could be compelled, in a legal or equitable proceeding, to accept a money satisfaction for such interest. See In re Smart World Techs., LLC, 423 F.3d 166, 169 n.3 (2d Cir. 2005) ("Section 363 permits sales of assets free and clear of claims and interests . . . It thus allows purchasers . . . to acquire assets [from a debtor] without any accompanying liabilities."); see also In re MMH Auto. Group, LLC, 385 B.R. 347, 367 (Bankr. S.D. Fla. 2008).
- 18. The Trustee states that she shall satisfy Section 363(f)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code because the Secured Creditor consents to a sale of the property.

- 19. The Trustee requests that any creditor (other than the Secured Creditor) asserting an interest or secured claim against the Property, after proper notice is given, be required to timely assert and substantiate the basis for such asserted interest or secured claim, by filing and serving responsive papers to this Motion prior to the hearing date. Otherwise, the Court may authorize the sale of the Property free and clear of any such asserted interest or security interest.<sup>2</sup> Failure to object after proper notice and opportunity to object is deemed consent. *See BAC Home Loans Servicing LP v.* Grassi, 2011 WL 6096509 (1st Cir. BAP Nov. 21, 2011); *Citicorp Homeowners Servs., Inc. v.* Elliott, 94 B.R. 343 (E.D. Pa. 1988); *In re* Gabel, 61 B.R. 661 (Bankr. W.D. La. 1985); *Futuresourse LLC v. Reuters Ltd.*, 312 F.3d 281 (7th Cir.); *In re Harbour E. Dev., Ltd.*, 2012WL1851015, at \*12 (Bankr. S.D. Fla., May 21, 2012).
- 20. The Trustee seeks authority to execute all documents and instruments she deems reasonable, necessary and/or desirable to close the sale. The only documents that the Trustee shall be required to deliver to close shall be (a) a Trustee's Deed, and (b) a copy of the Final Sale Order.
- 21. The Secured Creditor agrees to pay at closing (1) all outstanding real estate taxes, including any prorated amounts due for the current tax year; (2) if applicable, the lesser of any HOA fees accrued post-petition or the equivalent to twelve months' assessments and (3) all closing costs including State Documentary Stamps for the entire closing price pursuant to Florida Statute Sections 201.01 and 201.02; (4) 2% real estate commission to Russell Real Estate Services, 2% real estate commission to RE/MAX Beyond 2000 Realty, 2% real estate commission to BK Global Real Estate Services; (5) the carve-out to the bankruptcy estate of approximately \$8,030.31. Any payments by the Secured Creditor as stated herein shall be subject to any and all limitations on the Secured Creditor's liability for any fees and costs under applicable law.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Trustee reserves the right to dispute the alleged amount of any such claim both to validity and amount.

### B. The Sale Will Be Undertaken by the Buyer in Good Faith

- 22. Section 363(m) of the Bankruptcy Code protects a good faith purchaser's interest in property purchased from a debtor notwithstanding that the sale conducted under section 363(b) was later reversed or modified on appeal.
- The sale should be found to have been in good faith if the Trustee can demonstrate the transaction occurred at arm's-length and without fraud or collusion. See Kabro Assocs. of West Islip, LLC v. Colony Hill Assocs. (In re Colony Hill Assocs.), 111 F.3d 269, 276 (2d Cir. 1997) ("Typically, the misconduct that would destroy a purchaser's good faith status at a judicial sale involves fraud, collusion between the purchaser and other bidders or the trustee, or an attempt to take grossly unfair advantage of other bidders." (citation omitted)); see also In re Lorraine Brooke Associates, Inc., No. 07-12641 2007 WL 2257608 (Bankr. S.D. Fla. Aug. 2, 2007) (holding that a sale was entitled to the protections of Section 363(m) of the Bankruptcy Code when it was based upon arm's length bargaining and without collusion).
- 24. The Trustee asserts that the sale of the Property will utilize a competitive and transparent marketplace that facilitates an arm's-length sale without fraud or collusion. Accordingly, the Trustee respectfully requests that the Court find that the purchaser(s) will be entitled to the protections of Section 363(m) of the Bankruptcy Code.
- 25. The Trustee further states that given the information available at this time, the Trustee has made an educated evaluation and determined that the proposed Sale is in the best interest of the estate and its creditors.
- 26. The Trustee respectfully requests that this Court: (a) waive the 14 day stay pursuant to Rule 6004(h), deem the sale order enforceable immediately upon entry, and authorize the Trustee to close on the sale immediately upon entry of the Final Sale Order; (b) authorize the Trustee to take all actions and execute all documents she deems reasonable, necessary and/or

desirable to effectuate the requested relief; (c) retain sole and exclusive personal subject matter jurisdiction to implement, interpret and enforce the terms of this Motion and the Final Sale Order; and (d) adjudicate all claims, controversies and/or disputes arising from or related to the proposed sale.

#### CONCLUSION

The Trustee, in the exercise of her business judgment, believes, and therefore avers, that the proposed sale is in the best interest of the creditors of the bankruptcy estate insofar as there is otherwise no equity in the Property, the Trustee is more familiar with the current market than other interested parties, and a sale under this motion serves the best interest of all interested parties, including the Secured Creditors. The Buyer has agreed, subject to Court approval, to pay the sales price of \$170,000.00 in exchange for the Property free and clear of all liens, encumbrances, or interests.

WHEREFORE, the Trustee moves for the entry of an Order:

- A. Authorizing the sale of the Property and payment of liens and encumbrances of record from the sales proceeds;
- B. Authorizing the sale of the property to the purchaser free and clear of any other interests asserted against the property;
- C. Authorizing the Trustee to take any all actions and to execute any and all documents necessary and appropriate to effectuate and consummate the terms of said sale of the Property, including without limitation, executing a deed conveying the interests of the Debtor or any other party claiming an interest in the Property to the Purchaser;

D. Authorizing the Trustee and any escrow agent upon the Trustee's written instruction, to make such disbursements on or after the closing of the sale as are required by the purchase agreement or Order of this Court, including, but not limited to: (a) all delinquent real property taxes and outstanding post-petition real property taxes prorated as of the closing with respect to the real property (b) any outstanding Home Owner's Association fee or assessment arrearages; and (c) payment of real estate commissions of 2% each to Russell Real Estate Services, 2% commission to RE/MAX Beyond 2000 Realty, and 2% commission to BK Global Real Estate Services; (d) other anticipated closing costs.

- E. Determining that all affected interests have been adjudged and declared to be unconditionally released as to the Property;
- F. Determining that the Buyer has not assumed any liabilities of the Debtor;
- G. Determining that the Buyer is approved as a buyer in good faith in accordance with Section 363(m) of the Bankruptcy Code, and that the Buyer is entitled to all protections of Section 363(m) of the Bankruptcy Code,
- H. Waive the 14-day stay pursuant to Rule 6004(h), and
- I. Granting the Trustee such other and further relief as is just and proper.

DATED: May 15, 2017. Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Carolyn R. Chaney, Trustee
Post Office Box 530248
St. Petersburg, FL 33747-0248
Telephone: 727-864-9851

Email: carolyn.chaney@earthlink.net

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing Motion has been served by U.S. Mail or electronic delivery on May 15, 2017, to:

Office of United States Trustee, USTP.Region21.ECF@USDOJ.GOV

Debtor: John J. Futchko, Jr., 7347 Linden Lane, Sarasota, FL 34243

Attorney for Debtor: Curran K. Porto, Esquire, 410 S. Ware Blvd., Suite 404, Tampa, FL 33619; Email: curran@portolegalcenter.com\

Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, 1000 Blue Gentian Road, Suite 300, MAC X9999-01N, Eagan, MN 55121

Wells Fargo Bank, NA, c/o Wanda D. Murray, Esquire, Aldridge Pite, LLP, Fifteen Piedmont Center, 3575 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 500, Atlanta, GA 30305

Attached Creditor Matrix.

/s/ Carolyn R. Chaney, Trustee

Case 8:15-bk-03714-MGW Doc 39 Filed 05/15/17 Page 11 of 12 Label Matrix for local noticing BK Global Real Estate Services John J Futchko Jr. 113A-8 I/C/O Stephanie Givens 7347 Linden Lane Case 8:15-bk-03714-MGW 2000 E Lamar Blvd, Ste 155 Sarasota, FL 34243-5127 Middle District of Florida Arlington, TX 76006-7337 Mon May 15 13:23:38 EDT 2017 Russell Real Estate R. James Stevens WELLS FARGO BANK, NA 27121 Center Ridge Rd PO Box 3162 c/o Aldridge Pite LLP Westlake, OH 44145-4024 Zephyrhills, FL 33539-3162 Fifteen Piedmont Center 3575 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 500 Atlanta, GA 30305-1636 WELLS FARGO BANK, NA Wells Fargo Dealer Services (p) BANK OF AMERICA c/o Alice Blanco P O BOX 19657 PO BOX 982238 3575 Piedmont Road N.E. Irvine, CA 92623-9657 **RL PASO TX 79998-2238** Suite 500 Atlanta, GA 30305-1623 Barrett Management HOA Best Buy Credit Services Barclays Bank Delaware South Green Rd., Ste. 305 P.O Box 790441 125 S West St Wilmington, DE 19801-5014 Beachwood, OH 44121 Saint Louis, MO 63197-0001 Card Services Cap1/bstby Bk Related Processing Addres P.O. Box 30253 P.O. Box 8801 P.O Box 8053 Wilmington, DE 19899-8801 Mason, OH 45040-8053 Salt Lake City, UT 84130-0253 Customer Service (p) CITIBANK Chase CitiBank PO BOX 790034 Po Box 15298 P.O Box 6500 ST LOUIS MO 63179-0034 Wilmington, DB 19850-5298 Sioux Falls, SD 57117-6500 Discover Fin Svcs Llc (D) DISCOVER FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC Discover Bank Po Box 15316 PO BOX 3025 Discover Products Inc Wilmington, DE 19850-5316 PO Box 3025 NEW ALBANY OH 43054-3025 New Albany, OH 43054-3025 Lincoln Automotive Fin Key Bank Nw Dsnb Macys 12110 Emmet St 4910 Tiedeman Road 9111 Duke Blvd Omaha, NE 68164-4263 Cleveland, OH 44144-2338 Mason, OH 45040-8999 Quality Asset Recovery **Cual Run EOA** PYOD, LLC its successors and assigns as assi 7 Foster Ave 2831 Ringling Blvd. of Citibank, N.A.

Resurgent Capital Services

PO Box 19008

Greenville, SC 29602-9008

Gibbsboro, NJ 08026-1191

Shell Point P.O. Box 10826

Greenville, SC 29603-0826

Sarasota, FL 34237-5334

Shellpoint Mortgage Se 55 Beattie Place Ste 600 Greenville, SC 29601-2165

Syncb/home Design Nahf C/o Po Box 965036 Orlando, FL 32896-0001

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WELLS FARGO HOME MORTGAGE AMERICAS SERVICING

ATTN BANKRUPTCY DEPT MAC X7801-014

Vicky Zartman, CFCA, Legal and Collec Support Specialist II KEN BURTON, JR., Man. Cnty Tax Collec.

4333 US 301 N

Ellenton, FL 34222-2413

Wfs Financial/Wachovia Dealer Srvs

Po Box 3569

Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91729-3569

United States Trustee - TPA7/13 +

Timberlake Annex, Suite 1200

501 B Polk Street

Tampa, FL 33602-3949

Carolyn R. Chaney + PO Box 530248

3476 STATEVIEW BLVD

FORT MILL SC 29715-7203

(p) WELLS FARGO BANK NA

St. Petersburg, FL 33747-0248

Curran K Porto, PA 410 S Ware Blvd, Ste 404 Tampa, FL 33619-8401

Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

Dallas, TX 75266-0455

P.O. Box 660455

Curran K Porto +

Ken Burton Jr., Manatee County Tax Collector

4333 US 301 N

Ellenton, FL 34222-2413

Wanda D Murray + Aldridge Pite, LLP Fifteen Piedmont Center

3575 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 500

Atlanta, GA 30305-1636

The preferred mailing address (p) above has been substituted for the following entity/entities as so specified by said entity/entities in a Notice of Address filed pursuant to 11 U.S.C. 342(f) and Fed.R.Bank.P. 2002 (g) (4).

Bank Of America

Attention: Recovery Department

4161 Peidmont Pkwy. Greensboro, NC 27410

(d) Bank of America P.O. Box 982234 El Paso, TX 79998

(d) Bank of America PO Box 982234

El Paso, TX 79998-2234

(d) Bk Of Amer Po Box 982235

El Paso, TX 79998

Citibank Sd. Na

Attn: Centralized Bankruptcy

Po Box 20363

Kansas City, MO 64195

Discover Po Box 3008

New Albany, OH 43054

(d) Discover Financial Services

P.O. Box 30943

Salt Lake City, UT 84130

(d)Unvl/citi

Attn.: Centralized Bankruptcy

Po Box 20507

Kansas City, MO 64195

Wells Fargo Hm Mortgag

8480 Stagecoach Cir Frederick, MD 21701

The following recipients may be/have been bypassed for notice due to an undeliverable (u) or duplicate (d) address.

(u) Lincoln Automotive Financial Services

End of Label Matrix

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Bypassed recipients

Total

1 39